

## **EPA issues water pollution rules for construction sites**

Nov. 24 -- New rules have been issued by the U.S. EPA to help reduce water pollution from construction sites.

The new rules and regulations take effect in February, and will phase in over a four-year period.

The final rule requires construction site owners and operators that disturb one or more acres to use best management practices to ensure that soil disturbed during construction activity does not pollute nearby water bodies.

In addition, owners and operators of sites that impact 10 or more acres of land at one time will be required to monitor discharges and ensure they comply with specific limits on discharges to minimize the impact on nearby water bodies.

The EPA said construction activities like clearing, excavating and grading significantly disturb soil and sediment and, if not managed properly, can easily wash off the construction site and pollute nearby water bodies.

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